

## “Anti-Third Term Principle” October 1, 1912

After winning the 1904 election, President Theodore Roosevelt announced that he would honor the two-term tradition by not running for reelection in 1908. The pledge haunted Roosevelt, especially when he decided to seek the Presidency again in 1912. This cartoon, published one month before the election, shows the ghost of George Washington reminding Roosevelt of his past promise. Roosevelt lost the election to Woodrow Wilson.

*U.S. Senate Collection  
Center for Legislative Archives*

**From the Exhibit:**  
*Running for Office:  
Candidates, Campaigns and the  
Cartoons of Clifford K. Berryman*

**The National Archives &  
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Eightieth Congress of the United States of America  
At the First Session

Begun and held at the City of Washington on Friday, the third  
day of January, one thousand nine hundred and forty-seven

JOINT RESOLUTION

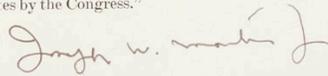
Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States  
relating to the terms of office of the President.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United  
States of America in Congress assembled (two-thirds of each House  
concurring therein), That the following article is hereby proposed as  
an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which shall  
be valid to all intents and purposes as part of the Constitution when  
ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several States:

“ARTICLE —

“SECTION 1. No person shall be elected to the office of the President  
more than twice, and no person who has held the office of President,  
or acted as President, for more than two years of a term to which  
some other person was elected President shall be elected to the office  
of the President more than once. But this Article shall not apply  
to any person holding the office of President when this Article was  
proposed by the Congress, and shall not prevent any person who may  
be holding the office of President, or acting as President, during the  
term within which this Article becomes operative from holding the  
office of President or acting as President during the remainder of  
such term.

“SEC. 2. This article shall be inoperative unless it shall have been  
ratified as an amendment to the Constitution by the legislatures of  
three-fourths of the several States within seven years from the date  
of its submission to the States by the Congress.”



Speaker of the House of Representatives.



Acting President of the Senate pro tempore.

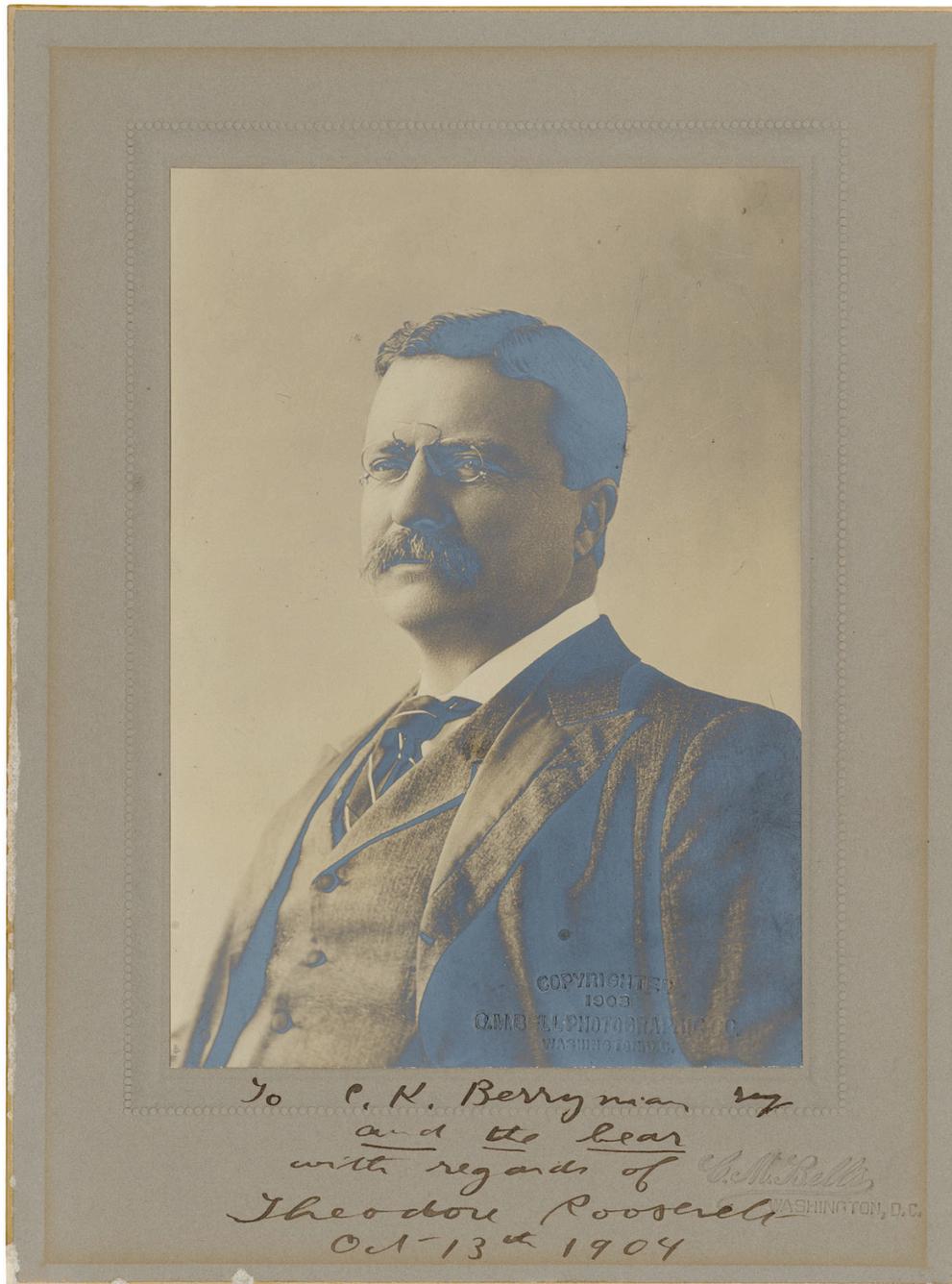
**The 22nd Amendment to the  
U.S. Constitution,  
ratified February 27, 1951**

The 22nd Amendment—ratified in 1951—codified the two-term tradition for the Presidency. George Washington began the tradition by retiring as President after two terms. The tradition was tested in 1880 and 1912, but it remained unbroken until Democratic President Franklin Delano Roosevelt won a third and fourth term in the White House in 1940 and 1944. In 1947, Congress proposed the 22nd Amendment amid concerns that without limits, the Presidency could become a dictatorship which lasted a lifetime.

*General Records of the U.S.  
Government  
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**Original photograph of Theodore Roosevelt, by C.M. Bell Photographic Company, signed October 13, 1904**

Clifford Berryman was known for his realistic cartoon portraits that did not unkindly emphasize or exaggerate the physical traits of his subjects. Among his papers are hundreds of reference photographs of many of the famous people who appeared in his cartoons. President Roosevelt gave this photograph of himself to Berryman. It is signed, "To C. K. Berryman and the bear with regards of Theodore Roosevelt, October 13th, 1904."

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